

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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To: District Managers

From: Branch Chief, Resources and Science

Subject: Visual Resource Management (VRM) Standard Environmental Colors

BLM is responsible for managing public land for multiple uses while ensuring that the scenic values and open space character of the public land are considered before allowing uses that may have negative visual impacts. BLM accomplishes this through its VRM system, a system which involves inventorying scenic values, establishing management objectives for those values through the resource management planning process, and then evaluating proposed activities to determine whether they conform to management objectives. Training is conducted each year to share the VRM principles, policies, design and visual resource simulation techniques necessary for field staff and managers to mitigate surface-disturbing activities in order to meet established VRM objectives (see National Training Center class schedule).

Consistent application of the VRM system is critical to ensuring that surface-disturbing activities harmonize with their surroundings. The attached sheet displaying standard environmental colors may be helpful to field staff as they use VRM techniques to incorporate the dominant forms, lines, colors, and textures of the land into the design of proposed activities and minimize potential contrasts with the natural landscape. The Bureau's VRM system helps to ensure that the actions taken on public land today will benefit adjacent communities in the future and preserve the scenic landscape character that defines the American West. Please ensure that these color sheets are distributed to resource, engineering, and other staff involved with facility development or land-disturbing activities.

If you have any questions concerning the VRM program, please contact Kay Schiepan, VRM Program Lead, at (208) 373-3825.

Signed
Jonathon S. Foster
Branch Chief, Resources & Science

Authenticated
Sharon Olendorff
Staff Assistant (930)

Attachment

Standard Environmental Colors Sheet (Sent Under Separate Cover)

cc:
Idaho Field Office Managers